




Collaborative Problem-Solving: An Integral Part of Watershed Planning

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Overview

- Why use collaborative approaches?
- Why not use collaborative approaches?
- Specific examples
- Five minefields to avoid
- Five keys to success



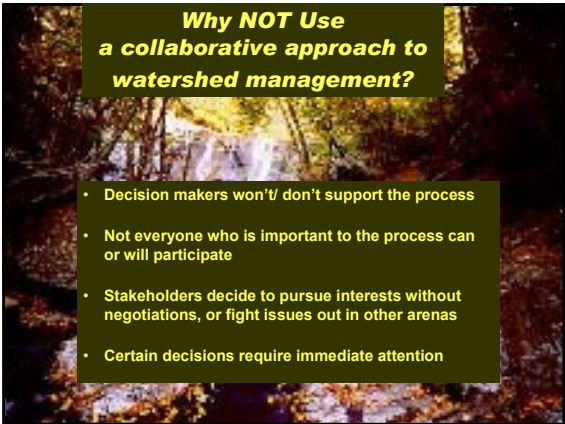
WHY USE a collaborative approach to watershed management?

- Multiple parties/ stakeholders, especially if across jurisdictions
- Multiple disciplines, skills, agencies needed to design sustainable solutions
- Successful implementation depends on support from multiple parties/ stakeholders



WHY USE a collaborative approach to watershed management?

- Able to Achieve A Better Watershed Assessment
- Able to Achieve Better Outcomes
- Able to Achieve Better Satisfaction



Why NOT Use a collaborative approach to watershed management?

- Decision makers won't/ don't support the process
- Not everyone who is important to the process can or will participate
- Stakeholders decide to pursue interests without negotiations, or fight issues out in other arenas
- Certain decisions require immediate attention



A Model for Collaborative Watershed Planning

The "Accordion" Approach

- A smaller collaborative leadership group
- Outreach to broader community at key points



Examples of Collaborative Approaches to Watersheds

Examples of the "Accordion" Approach

- Nelson County Rockfish River watershed
- Lower Columbia River watershed



Five Minefields in Collaboration

1. Not including all layers of decision-making
2. Not involving all stakeholders soon enough
3. Misleading stakeholders about how their input will be used
4. Not recognizing emotional impacts of project
5. Not considering independent facilitation



Five Keys to Successful Collaboration

1. Open and transparent process
2. Listen to people
3. Involve all important stakeholders
 - all those interested
 - all those impacted
 - and all those who can help or hinder implementation



Five Keys to Successful Collaboration

4. Independent facilitation when trust, or complexity, or history is involved
5. Focus on Interests not Positions
 - focus on the *why* not the *what*

Lessons Learned Ways To Empower Stakeholders (including your local government)

Old but still vibrant lesson...
Balanced representation and participation

More recent lessons and ideas....

- Stakeholders-citizens select third-party facilitator(s)
- Stakeholder-citizens help design the process
- Stakeholder-citizens identify information needs and may help collect information, conduct surveys, collect data, and/or identify mutually acceptable researchers